

OVER 22,000 FOREIGN CONDOLENCE MESSAGES ON PRESIDENT HO'S DEATH

ACCORDING to incomplete statistics, more than 22,000 messages and letters have been received from abroad, condoling over President Ho Chi Minh's passing away. They were from State leaders, fraternal Parties, various political parties, mass organizations and individuals from 121 countries including 12 socialist countries, 27 countries in Asia, 34 in Africa, 26 in Latin America, 20 in Europe and 2 in Oceania.

The messages and letters included those sent by the Heads of State or Prime Ministers of 47 countries, 79 communist and workers' parties, trade union organizations in 37 countries, youth and student organizations in 59 countries, women organizations in 36 countries, and 21 international organizations.

Hanoi Press Opinion

Mr. Stewart's Unsavoury Pact

AS universal indignation at the Son My massacre was descending on Nixon and company, one man dared come out and raise his small hands behind the White House and the Pentagon. He was British Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart!

Within only a few days after the Son My case was brought to light by American and British papers, Stewart twice played his unsavoury part as counsel for the murderers.

Going on the air on November 23, he said that even if the accusations were vindicated, "they did not mean the American cause was wrong."

Again, he was quoted by AP on November 27 as saying, "American war aims in Viet Nam would remain valid even if reports of the My Lai (Son My) Ed.) atrocities prove true."

Clearly enough, Mr. Stewart's cynicism, brazenness and ruthless disregard for human life were actuated by an unmovable motive.

The Son My mass killing was viewed by British opinion and by humanity as a whole as a war crime committed by the US aggressors. His statements added evidence to the Wilson administration's serious betrayal of its commitments and responsibility as one of the Big Four members of the Geneva Conference on Viet Nam. The Wilson administration's policy in Viet Nam is too well-known to everybody as one of shielding, covering up, and even tailoring after, and colluding with the US. It has supplied military "advice" and weapons to the US and allowed it to use Hong Kong in its operations. It has approved all US war escalations and readily advertised every US political ploy. All this has been aimed at more US dollars and support to Britain's colonialist interests east of Suez.

This time, Stewart again showed unusual skill in defending his crimes. One is wondering what the Wilson administration will get as reward from Nixon. But one thing is certain, it has brought a hornet's nest about its ears.

Stewart has cut across the sentiments of the British people. In the past ten or twelve years, the British press has been continually putting out reports on the angry British public feeling over the Son My massacre. 65 MPs have signed a motion of protest and urged the Wilson administration to inform the US government of the deep concern of the public in Britain over the affair. On November 13 thousands of Londoners demonstrated in front of the US Embassy, burnt a US flag, shouted US assassins! and urged that their government disassociate itself from the US war policy. The British people are aware of the US war crimes in Viet Nam.

They also know that those crimes originate from the US aggressive war. The Observer on November 23 said that "the reports of the Son My massacre, even if only partly true, are horrifying." They reflect the character of the US war in Viet Nam and the consequence of the US intervention, it added.

Public opinion in Britain, many members of the Wilson administration, such as East and Telecommunications Minister John Stonehouse, MP Noel Baker, and many Labour MPs, have been pressing the US to put an end to its aggressive war, and unconditionally and totally withdraw US troops from South Viet Nam.

The British Foreign Secretary has also entirely disowned the American progressive mankind, and intolerably provoked world public opinion.

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Nhas Das (The People)
Nov. 29, 1969

VIENTIANE COURIER

SON MY Survivor's First-hand Account of Massacre



Vo Thi Lien, a 12-year-old girl, who miraculously escaped from the Son My massacre and who is now in North Viet Nam, told of how the Yanks devil behaved on that day, March 16, 1968.

THE day had just broken and the sun cast its golden rays on the gloom of white beach of My Hoi, my native hamlet. As usual, on such fine days, the people in My Hoi hamlet got up very early, some preparing for a fishing day, others weaving sleeping mats or mending their nets, others plaiting coconut fibre. Then all of a sudden, artillery fire from the American position on Nui Nam and other positions roared down on the hamlet. Dozens of US helicopters flew in and raked the beach with machinegun fire. I called to my grandparents to go into shelter. By now, many houses and trees had been destroyed or slashed down. I thought it was an enemy routine shelling and strafing. But soon afterwards the helicopters came wave after wave and landed American troops in the hamlet.

Hardly had they stepped down when the shouting and gesticulating soldiers began their killing and burning rampage.

There were 15 people in Mr. Loi's shelter. 8 of them were shot dead as soon as they reached the opening. The remaining 7 were killed by grenades hurled inside. Mrs. Loi was also cut down as she was getting out from the underground. One of her children who ran screaming behind was also mowed down. The murderers also killed her youngest child inside the shelter.

They afterwards went to the shelter of Mrs. Vo Thi Phu, my aunt. They dragged her out and attempted an assault on her. As she resisted manfully, they emptied a full barrel of carbine into her neck. Her little child crawled up and sucked at the breast of the dead mother.

The GIs then dumped armfuls of straw on my aunt and her baby and set fire to the heap. In the afternoon when I went to my aunt's shelter, I found two charred bodies, the mouth of the child still at her mother's breast.

Then, the GIs came over to my family's shelter just as my grandmother emerged with a bundle of clothes. They shouted menacingly then

shot at my grandma's chest. Horrified, I could only cry out, "Grandma is dead!" when grenades were tossed into the shelter where grandfather and I were hiding. Before I could reach the outlet a grenade went off and I lost consciousness.

When I came to, I still heard the wild screams of the Yanks. Not until afternoon did I get out of the refuge.

Struck with horror, I ran among the burning ruins calling out "Someone still alive?" Only moanings were heard. I ran from one shelter to another, tears rolling down my cheeks. At Mrs. Mai's shelter, both she and her husband were dead. Mrs. Vo Thi Mai, who had just given birth to a baby ten hours earlier, had been gunned down. She lay beside Mai, a 14-year-old boy, Thanh, another boy, had one arm sliced off by a bullet.

He was groaning with pain when I arrived. In the shelter of Mr. Tang, I found a still more gruesome spectacle. Mr. Tang had both legs and both arms gone, his body was riddled with bullets. His wife and his sister Sau and a child of the latter were lying dead on the ground. Mrs. Loi, 50, had been stripped naked, shot and flung into the flame. Miss Thiet, her daughter-in-law, was also found lifeless nearby. I came to the shelter of Mrs. Thi to find that six among the seven hiding there had been murdered, the other was seriously wounded.

Five-year-old Anh was bayoneted through his back. At the shelter of Mrs. Trinh, I found blood everywhere. There all the nine occupants were dead. Mrs. Trinh and her four children were laying crumpled, a grenade having torn their bodies to pieces. Mrs. Hoa and her three children had also been killed. In the shelter of Mrs. Ngan, the killing was even more atrocious. Mrs. Ngan, who was nursing her time, was shot dead, the foetus thrusting its legs from her mother's womb. Three other children were sprawling dead, their heads resting on their mother's arm.

By now it was already past noon. As I was trying to pull out a cousin of mine trapped in a smashed shelter, the Americans again

NIXON'S CHEMICAL WARFARE IN SOUTH VIET NAM

Excerpts from a communique issued on Nov. 18, 1969 by the South Viet Nam Committee to Denounce US-Puppet War Crimes

In the past ten months since Nixon took office, a series of delta provinces like My Tho, Ben Tre, Tay Ninh, Tra Vinh, Thu Dau Mot, Cao Tho, Rach Gia, Soc Trang, Gin Binh, Ben Hong, Long An, Long Xuyen and Kien Phong, have been regularly attacked with noxious chemicals in high doses. As a result, great losses of life and property have been caused to the population. On February 20, 1969, for example, thousands of hectares of rice fields stretching on over 20 kilometers from Giang Tron district to the capital of Ben Tre province were devastated by chemical agents.

In Tra Vinh province, US "flying carpets" on March 22, 1969 dropped gas bombs on Hoa Hui and on Hoa Hinh A and B hamlets, and the Kien Lo area just outside the provincial capital. Over 3,000 people were poisoned. On April 11, US chemical toxins ruined most of the crops and fruit trees on 30 kilometers from Long Tho village to An Phu Tan village in Can Ke district. In the last week of May, thousands of people in six villages of Long Xuyen district were affected by chemical poisons which caused vomiting, headache, fever, hemorrhage, etc. In addition, dozens of hectares of fruit trees and food plants were laid waste.

In Soc Trang province, the US in June and July 1969 carried out repeated chemical spraying on Nhon Hoa village

(Phuoc Long district), Long Hung, An Ninh and Hu Duc Kien villages (the chief district), and areas bordering on the provincial capital, devastating tens of thousands of hectares of fruit trees. Moreover, thousands of people were casualties, dozens of them fatalities. All the five members of Mr. An's family, for example, lost their lives.

Most recently, on November 4 and 5, 1969 US aircraft spread toxic chemicals on areas along Highway 30 in Cai Be district, My Tho province. Most of the orchards and crop fields were devastated, and hundreds of people including many old folks and children were seriously affected.

Attacks with chemical products and toxic gas were conducted with particular intensity on Tay Ninh province. On July 18 and 20, 1969 alone, some 5 tons of noxious chemicals were spread on a large area from the Trinh Minh The canal to the southeastern and northeastern ends of Ba Den Mount, affecting over 1,000 people, and killing 30 children. Ninh Thanh and Hiep Ninh villages in the Cao Dai Hoa Soc area were repeatedly sprayed with chemical poisons in the last two days of September 1969. On more than 200 occasions, US aircraft including "flying carpets" dumped on these two villages of less than 15 square kilometers thousands

(Continued page 4)



Another mass murder in 1968 by GIs in Son Trinh, same district in Quang Ngai province (to which Son My belongs).

VIENTIANE COURIER

VIET NAM AND THE WORLD WORLD OPINION and the SAIGON MASSACRE

THE massacre of over 300 inhabitants of Son My village has aroused widespread indignation in the world. Many mass organizations, personalities and newspapers in various countries have raised their voices against the US imperialists' crime and genocide in Viet Nam.

On November 27, 300,000 East Berliners (GDR) took part in a big rally denouncing immediate cessation by the US of its war of aggression in Viet Nam and condemning the Son My massacre. *DDN* reported.

Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the GDR State Council, attended the meeting.

Taking the floor, Gerald Goetting, President of the GDR People's Chamber, strongly condemned the barbarous Son My massacre by the US. He pointed out that the complete liberation of South Viet Nam and for final victory over the aggressors. We express our solidarity with you, continued active support to their fight for the right to live, for the complete liberation of South Viet Nam and for final victory over the aggressors. We express our solidarity with you, continued active support to their fight for the right to live, for the complete liberation of South Viet Nam and for final victory over the aggressors. We express our solidarity with you, continued active support to their fight for the right to live, for the complete liberation of South Viet Nam and for final victory over the aggressors.

A resolution was unanimously passed which said: "The bloodthirsty Son My and others in South Viet Nam in the course of which thousands of defenceless women, children and old people were brutally and inhumanly slaughtered by the US aggressors are reminders of the darkest days of Hitlerist fascism. The wholesale massacre of South Vietnamese civilians has brought to broad daylight the criminal character of the US war of aggression in Viet Nam."

We denounce the inhuman massacre of the inhabitants of Viet Nam. We are shocked by the West German government's attempt to exculpate this atrocity and its attempt to divert the material help to US aggression."

Such international and national organizations as the Women's International Democratic Federation, the Soviet T.U. Central Council, the German Free Youth League, the Argentine Movement of Solidarity with Viet Nam, have issued angry protest against the Son My massacre of civilians, mostly women and children.

The world press has unanimously flayed the US imperialists for the Son My crime. The American papers have been giving

prominence to this affair which sometimes cover a whole page.

In the Soviet Union, all the big newspapers have printed stories on the Son My case. In its Nov. 30 issue, *Pravda* carried a statement by the inhabitants of Hatyn village raised in March 1943 by the German fascists and other localities in the Soviet Republic of Belorussia. The signatories to the statement, including I. Kaminski, the only survivor of the Hatyn massacre, denounced the Son My atrocity and many others committed by the US in South Viet Nam in the name of all the courageous militants against German fascist occupation. Stunned at the US war of aggression in Viet Nam and punishment of the war criminals.

In Cuba, for a week, the press, radio and television have been highlighting the Son My mass slaughter. In an article headlined "Son My, a crime against humanity," the *Granma* newspaper, devoted a quarter of its frontpage of its Nov. 27 issue to the reactions of the Cuban Communist Party, devoted a quarter of its frontpage of its Nov. 27 issue to the reactions of the Cuban Communist Party, devoted a quarter of its frontpage of its Nov. 27 issue to the reactions of the Cuban Communist Party, devoted a quarter of its frontpage of its Nov. 27 issue to the reactions of the Cuban Communist Party.

In Czechoslovakia, the papers *Labour and Liberty* likened the US aggressors' crimes in South Viet Nam to the German war crimes. They recalled Lidice and remarked that the Son My massacre was but a small part of the great tragedy of the US war in Viet Nam.

In Bulgaria, the paper *Popular Word* wrote in its Nov. 27 issue: "To Oradour and Lidice has been added Son My. The two former crimes took place in the dark days of Nazism during World War II and the latter in the era. The GIs moved down in 500 inhabitants of a village regardless of age and sex. The localities were razed to the ground. The GIs moved down in 500 inhabitants of a village regardless of age and sex. The localities were razed to the ground. The GIs moved down in 500 inhabitants of a village regardless of age and sex. The localities were razed to the ground."

The *Searchlight of India* wrote that the GIs had reiterated the Lidice tragedy of the German fascists in 1942 in Czechoslovakia and stressed that this was not the only crime perpetrated by the US aggressors against the peace-loving Vietnamese; since the beginning of the open interference in the internal affairs of Viet Nam, they have committed uncounted crimes with napalm and toxic gases.

But, another Indian paper, pointed out that it was time to carry out serious investigations into the US imperialists' crimes in Viet Nam and that the barbarous massacre of the Son My villagers was an outrage for mankind.

eloquent indictment of all US crimes in South Viet Nam," it added.

In France, *L'Humanite*, organ of the French Communist Party, and others papers such as *Le Figaro*, *Le Monde*, *Paris Soir*, ran detailed articles on the Son My affair. In its Nov. 21 editorial, *L'Humanite* severely scored the US aggressors and stressed that they must be held entirely responsible for that massacre. *Paris Jour* termed Son My a "Viet Nam Bradfield."

In West Germany, the *Volkshüter* *Altagenue* *Zeitung* wrote: "Son My was only one link in the chain of US crimes in South Viet Nam. It was one of the criminal acts systematically committed by the aggressors. *Der Stern* asked this question: 'Was that a means of defending the self-determination right of the South Viet Nam people?'"

In Great Britain, the *Observer* said that: "The reports of the Son My massacre, however, partly true, are horrifying. With banner headlines, the *Daily Mirror* said that the massacre had given the world a blue foul. The *Daily Mail* wondered whether this was the nastiest incident in a nasty war."

The *Daily North* carried an editorial in which it said saying that these were the undeniable proofs which shocked the world.

In Denmark, the *Tabloid*, the second biggest paper in the country, frontpaged an article saying that the Son My massacre spelled out the failure of the American war and stressing: "The criminals must be punished. Let's hope and believe that their arms, slung around their dead brothers' necks, with demonstration of bestial and brutal instinct, the GIs are not for the Americans."

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VIET NAM PARTY AND STATE LEADERS' MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES OVER PASSING OF MARSHAL K.E. VOROSHILOV

To Comrades:
L.I. BREZHNEV,
Secretary General of the CPSU Central Committee;
N.Y. PODGORNYY,
President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet;
A.N. KOSYGIN,
Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

We are deeply grieved to learn of the passing of Comrade K.E. Voroshilov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, at the age of 80.

On behalf of the Vietnamese people, the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the National Assembly and the Government of the DRVN, we convey to you and to the Communist Party, the Supreme Soviet, the Council of Ministers and the entire people of the Soviet Union, our most profound condolences.

A veteran revolutionary and an intimate comrade-in-arms of V.I. LENIN and J.V. STALIN, K.E. VOROSHILOV devoted his whole life to the revolution, army cause of the working class and people of the Soviet Union. For many years, in his capacity as a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, he actively participated in leading the building and defence of the Soviet power and the construction of socialism and communism in the Soviet Union. He was an eminent commander having made great contributions to the building of the heroic Soviet army forces and having recorded many glorious exploits.

With the passing of Comrade K.E. VOROSHILOV, the Soviet people have lost an eminent comrade. But his spirit of dedication to the revolution, the working class and the people will be forever a shining example to all revolutionary fighters struggling for the glorious cause of socialism and communism and world peace.

The Vietnamese people and the Vietnamese Communists, united in understanding the great contribution of Comrade K.E. VOROSHILOV, an intimate friend of theirs, and highly value his contributions to the consolidation and development of the fraternal friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Viet Nam.

We pay our last respects to Comrade K.E. VOROSHILOV, and ask you to convey our most profound condolences to the family of the late hero of the Soviet Union."

TON DUC THANG,
President of the DRVN;
LE DUAN,
First Secretary of the Viet Nam Workers' Party;
TRUONG TRINH,
Chairman of the DRVN National Assembly Standing Committee;
PHAM VAN KIEP,
Prime Minister of the DRVN.

The Lebanese *All Star* and *Al-Jadeed* in Beirut tried to conceal it. The paper said this was a stain in the history of mankind, the outcome of the true colours of the men in Washington.

In Buenos Aires, *Mirror* and *Vanguard* on Nov. 27 strongly criticized the US aggressors. The *Mirror* wrote: "This was an act reminiscent of the German fascists in World War II."

The *Vanguard* commented: "The news of the massacre of over 300 civilians at Son My by US troops astonished and terrified every one. Nevertheless, most barbarous is the fact that there are 100,000 people trying to conceal it. The paper said this was a stain in the history of mankind, the outcome of the true colours of the men in Washington."

August 19-1969. In an address published in the September 14 issue of the *Progressive*, Senator Mark G. Mervin complained that it was a dramatic fact with unbelievable consequences that the US had imposed all their military activities in South Viet Nam and therefore let slip the opportunity to reduce the casualties, to relax the tension both in military and diplomatic spheres and to pave the way for a more promising negotiating atmosphere both in Paris and Saigon (see, September 14).

It is beyond doubt that Nixon's step-up of the war of aggression in Viet Nam has been causing the Paris Conference to stagnate.

Increased Use of Toxic Chemicals
The Nixon government ordered more extensive use of toxic chemicals.

Since early 1969, large areas all over South Viet Nam from Quang Tri, Thuan Thien to Con Co, Cam Lang, Tay Ninh close to the Cambodian border to Bien Hoa, Gia Dinh next to Saigon have been subjected to frequent noxious chemical and gas sprayings. The bulk of the victims has been old people, women and children. Toxic chemical sprayings have become a serious matter in the Western and American press. *Reuter* on April 9, 1969, reported that the US military forces had thrown bags of crystallized S chemicals into the jungles of undergrowth in an area 8 km from Dai Nhat.

In its August 24, 1969 issue, the *Sunday Times* quoted a so-called document published by the US Defence Department, describing new weapons widely used by US troops in South Viet Nam to project toxic agents, such as "Sandy Andy" weapon, a 2-inch long barrel to propel toxic bags. Mighty bags, an aspirator-like human-killing device to blow CS smoke or gas into undergrounds of dwellings.

The paper also mentioned improvements in toxic chemical spraying methods controlled by the US Defence Department for US troops, such as the use of aircraft or long-range cannons with napalm and 155mm shells loaded with CS agent.

The magnitude of the criminal use of noxious chemicals to strike at the life of the Vietnamese people were stressed by the American Professor of history Haldrup Kolko in an emergency conference on Viet Nam held in many years. In particular since the bombing halt in North Viet Nam, the US imperialists have concentrated their air attacks on this country under the false pretence of policy of the so-called "Ho Chi Minh trail" across Laos.

In Argentina, all the five papers in Buenos Aires on Nov. 27 frontpaged reports on the Son My affair and denounced to public opinion in Argentina the false pretence of policy by the American aggressors in South Viet Nam.

The Dossier of US War Crimes Grows Ever Thicker

(Continued from page 3)

crop and defoliation chemicals. According to Professor Kolko, James H. DAVIS, commander of US Marines along the DMZ: "The speediest way to shorten chemical warfare was to invade Laos and the South of North Viet Nam" (*USIS*, April 1st, 1969).

4 - The True Name of "Vietnamization" Is War

According to a UPI dispatch on June 13, 1969, the US Defence Department intended to allocate \$2 billion dollars 3 years to build up the puppet armed forces to replace the US troops in their fighting against the Viet Nam people. On September 5, US Admiral Thomas Moorer said the US had turned over to the puppet army 170 warships and had been building for it a navy of 30,000 men.

And according to US military sources, the amount of armoured vehicles (furnished by the US) of the Viet Nam puppet army will run to 1,000 by the end of this year. Artillery battalions will be doubled in number and equipped with 155mm guns of 4,950 lbs of weight and over 34 km of range (*UPI*, October 28).

The training of the puppet troops has also speeded up. *Reuter* reported on October 30 that in execution of the "Vietnamization" programme, every week 100 men were sent to America to be trained into helicopter pilots.

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As US House Representative Conyers stated, Vietnamization is "practically a euphemism for 'honourable settlement' remain that shameful game the very name of which is war. Since Nixon's coming to power, the Saigon junta has remained an rotten, American satellite, arbitrary as ever, he added.

VI - US AGGRESSION EXTENDED TO LAOS AND CAMBODIA

US armed intervention in Laos goes back to many years. In particular since the bombing halt in North Viet Nam, the US imperialists have concentrated their air attacks on this country under the false pretence of policy of the so-called "Ho Chi Minh trail" across Laos.

But their dark design was revealed straight out by General Raymond Davis, commander of US Marines along the DMZ: "The speediest way to shorten chemical warfare was to invade Laos and the South of North Viet Nam" (*USIS*, April 1st, 1969).

On late, on October 17, 1969, Mr. Phnom Penh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Laotian Patriotic Front, member of the National Commission for Implementation of the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos, sent an urgent message to the two co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference on Laos, the contracting parties, strongly denouncing the US imperialists for having more and more intensified their war of aggression in Laos. He reported that in addition of the existing 3,000 US military advisors and agents, the US had introduced in Laos more than 10,000 "Green Berets" and had been striving to build up the Laotian puppet forces into an essential strategic force to attack the liberated zone. With bombs and shells of all kinds including napalm bombs, with mass-illuminated weapons prohibited by international law, the US aircraft obliterated numerous villages in South Viet Nam. The message emphasized: "The ever growing aggression by the US in Laos is an ever increasing danger to the peace of the world."

US public opinion included in the "Vietnamization" programme, every week 100 men were sent to America to be trained into helicopter pilots.

At present, 100,000 recruits are attending courses in 25 military schools and 35 training centres in South Viet Nam. I.e. twice the number of trainees two years before. Every year, more than a thousand Vietnamese were sent to the United States to get the training not available in Viet Nam (*AFP*, October 17).

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As regards Cambodia, the US and its Saigon lackey have been staging incessant provocative activities. No month passed without a protest from the Kingdom of Cambodia against these acts of brigandage: wanton shelling of residential areas causing casualties among civilians, toxic chemical sprayings, violations of the Cambodian airspace, territorial waters and border kidnapping of Cambodians, etc. In September 1969 alone, the Kingdom of Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs had to protest many a time against the US imperialists and their stooges for having violated Cambodian airspace and territory, and in Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Monduliri provinces (Note to the US Embassy at Phnom Penh, Sept. 13) and for having intruded into the Cambodian territorial waters at Nam Kep on August 27, capturing 10 Cambodian fishermen from coast village of Kampong province (Note to the US Embassy - Sept. 26).

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In his final address to the 22nd session of the US Supreme Court, Chief Justice Earl Warren said: "Our function is not that of an historian. We have not studied and deliberated solely in order to preserve the truth about the Son My massacre. We must discharge a deeper and harder duty. We speak because silence is complicity. We speak because the evil in order to exterminate its causes."

During the last two years, the world people have made clear their condemnation of the US imperialists by means of positive actions for an end to their crimes in Viet Nam. Nevertheless, the US ruling circles and, in particular the present Nixon government keep piling up in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia another and another national crimes already uncovered by the Bertrand Russell Tribunal. Moreover, these crimes have been gaining in appalling gravity. The US imperialists' war acts, which constitute a repudiation of the basic principles of international law, are a repudiation of the fundamental national rights of the Viet Nam people, at the same time, a repudiation of the independence, neutrality and sovereignty of Laos and Cambodia.

VALUABLE AID...

(Continued from page 1)

Governments and people of the brother socialist countries.

It calls on the entire people and army, various departments and organizations of various levels, to scrupulously implement the Ho Chi Minh's last directions, raise higher their spirit of self-reliance, bring into full play all abilities, make full use of all advantages, and overcome all difficulties, emulate with one another in production and the fighting, practice economy, make the most of every drop of aid from the fraternal countries, so as to completely repudiate the US aggressors and build material and technical foundations for the complete liberation of South Viet Nam. He actively contribute to the strengthening of the forces of the socialist camp, support the national liberation movement, and defend peace in South-East Asia and the whole world."

Reflections on Son My

(Continued from page 1)

As we have learned through certain disclosures in Son My, the GIs refused on March 16, 1969 to humbly offer orders to the civilians. The GIs had not the courage to behave as Meadlo's father wanted them to. The GIs have been knocked down the officer who had ordered him to kill people, but their conduct was absolutely perfunctory.

No doubt, fearing that such things might occur with a view to cutting down its own losses, the Pentagon has done everything possible to expand artillery and especially air actions. To a pilot who needs only to press a button to wipe out hundreds of human lives from their thousands of metres for the B-52 bombers - the "spitting death" is not stamed by blood, his conscience is quiet and he kidnaps a quiet and a quiet of conscience" his sweetheart.

That is why, together with our people, they are unanimously demanding a halt to the aggression in Viet Nam. It is a "dirty" war, so it must be stopped, no matter what means and means employed.

PLAF Successes...

(Continued from page 8)

regulars and civil guards engaged in pacification work or in regrouping of inhabitants. Thousands of adverse forces were knocked out. In the Da Nang sector, in the first 10 days of the month, the PLAF daringly struck at more than 40 bases, wiping out in all nearly 800 US and ARVN troops and in the Quang Ngai sector the patriots in the last 20 days of the month, disabled more than

1,000 enemy troops on "pacification" operations around urban centres.

TO THE READER
We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the working of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and help appreciate your suggestions. We will help to serve you more efficiently in future.

MILITARY OPERATIONS

PLAF Successes in November

In November, the PLAF again caught the US Command off its guard with a series of assaults against the puppet Marine HQ in Rach Gia province, the "Special Forces" camps at Bu Prang and Bu Dong, nearly 600 posts and bases in the Mekong Delta and more than 100 positions, command posts and airfields in the rest of South Viet Nam.

MORE THAN 4,700 ENEMY CASUALTIES IN BU PRANG-100% LAP AND BU DOP

In the Western High Plateaux, in spite of all enemy efforts to strengthen its support bases and increase the use of bombers, especially B-52's, the camps which are part of his "forward defence" system continued to be targets of devastating strikes.

In Bu Prang, about 170 km North-Northeast of Saigon, the enemy, who had been forced to abandon 11 fire bases between Oct. 28 and Nov. 1, then took sound beatings. Between Nov. 2 and Nov. 5, more than 600 US and puppet troops were wiped out and dozens of others captured Southwest of Duc Lap. Among these casualties were US pilots and "advisers."

In an attempt to relieve Bu Prang, completely isolated, a puppet battalion was moved in as reinforcements. Engaged in furious fighting and sustaining heavy losses, these two units left their retreat on Nov. 8 leaving the "Special Forces" to fend for themselves. The Americans made a new try by hurling into the scene the understrength puppet Regiment No 17 supported by a US paratroop battalion transferred from Phan Rang to Ban Me Thuot. The new-comers had to regroup

themselves at Hill 902, 8 km West of Bu Prang, thereby exposing themselves to the blows of the patriotic forces. In 3 days, from Nov. 13 to Nov. 15, 85 per cent of the combat strength of this unit were destroyed, with 800 men killed or wounded.

The following days, the PLAF kept up their harassment, particularly from Nov. 20 to Nov. 23, they put more than 400 adverse troops out of action, brought down 12 aircraft and destroyed 5 artillery pieces.

All told, between Oct. 28 and Nov. 20 on the Bu Prang-Duc Lap front, the PLAF knocked out nearly 3,500 enemy soldiers including nearly 200 GIs. Remarkably enough, all the 3 regiments of puppet Division 13 which ensured the defence of this sector sustained heavy losses. Regiment 47 was the hardest hit.

The enemy also lost 76 helicopters and planes, about 40 artillery pieces, 63 military vehicles and dozens of arms, munitions and other military deposits.

Fighting in close co-ordination with PLAF operating in the Bu Prang-Duc Lap sector, those in Phouc Long province, the Bu Dong "Special Forces" camp 135 km North of Saigon under constant fire. In 9 days (Nov. 3-8 and 11 and from Nov. 15 to 20) they exacted a toll of more than 1,800 US and puppet troops, inflicting serious losses upon a First Air Cavalry base, several US encampments and a puppet Ranger companies. In addition, they destroyed 18 helicopters, 64 vehicles and 10 command and mortars.

The patriots also pounded the Plei Cam-Ben Het camp, 254 km North of Duc Lap and decimated several companies moving out on a

relief mission. The PLAF also stepped up their activities on communication lines, such as Highway 14, 41 and 19. In particular on the section of Highway 19 West of Ban Yang Pass, the enemy, attacked more than a dozen times, lost more than 100 vehicles and more than 300 men. The enemy rear bases were not immune from assaults either. On the night of Nov. 15, the PLAF overran the Tan Tao airfield in Pleiku, destroying 50 aircraft, and disabling more than 100 enemy soldiers among them a large number of officers and technicians.

In the provinces of Binh Long and Tan Dao Mot, the PLAF also erased several US encampments near Dau Tieng (Nov. 3 and 11) and at Coc Ruo (Nov. 7 and 13), destroying 50 vehicles including 67 tanks and wiping out hundreds of GIs.

NEARLY 15,000 ADVERSE CASUALTIES IN THE DELTA AND URBAN AREAS

BEGINNING with the simultaneous overnight attacks of Nov. 5, 6 and 7, the November offensive of the PLAF, directed against a whole series of positions, posts, base camps and military sub-sectors, chiefly in the Mekong Delta where, under the plan for the "Vietnamization of the war", the Americans had shifted over to the puppet troops the main war burden.

In Rach Gia province, about 1,600 enemy troops were put out of action, 700 of them on the Xeo Ro canal on the night of Nov. 5 when the PLAF blotted out a puppet marine HQ.

The following days, the PLAF of Ben Tre, My Tho, An Giang, Rach Gia, Go Cong, Kien Phong and Kien Long provinces raided nearly 300 positions, inflicting more than 10,000 casualties including hundreds of US "advisers." These provinces, especially Ben Tre, My Tho and An Giang, constitute for the enemy key "pacification" areas, and all 3 puppet divisions, the 7th, 9th and 21st, which had been assigned this task were seriously mauled.

In November, in the Tri-Thien-Hue area, South Viet Nam's Northernmost sector, the Southern Army's 1st Trung o, the PLAF also mounted many attacks on US infantrymen and paratroops as well as on puppet

GIs' ANTI-WAR ACTIONS

● In 1968 there were over 60 cases of GIs in Viet Nam disobeying orders, demanding repatriation, shooting at their commanders, burning down storehouses or rebelling in detention camps (including six cases of killing of COs). The rebellion of 750 GIs detained at Long Binh (50 km north-east of Saigon) in November 1968 ended with 28 casualties. The *Nation* and *The Guardian* have reported that at present 10,500 anti-war GIs are kept in jail and given ill-treatment.

● The most dramatic war protest by GIs occurred on Dec. 17, 1968, when over 3,000 US servicemen stationed at Dong Du (30 km northwest of Saigon) staged an action lasting many days for the withdrawal of US troops.

● According to the *New York Times*, the American servicemen are more and more disgruntled at the Viet Nam war. In many military bases and positions, they have set up underground organizations and written newspaper articles and leaflets calling on their mates to oppose Nixon's unjust

war of aggression in Viet Nam.

● On Nov. 15, 1969, 300 GIs of the 34th artillery intergroup, ground units and military police at Phuoc Vinh base (60 km north-northeast of Saigon) demonstrated for an end of the Viet Nam war and complete withdrawal of US troops, by wearing black arm-bands sitting on 26 armoured cars.

● In mid-November 1969, at Long Binh, a dentist in Medical Team No 38 filed with Nixon an antiwar petition signed by 123 artillerymen, MPs and military surgeons and 30 officers including a lieutenant colonel and two majors.

● On Thanks-giving Day (Nov. 27, 1969) 600 GIs staged a hunger strike at an anti-war action.

● At the field hospital No 71 in Pleiku (278 km north-northeast of Saigon) about 100 officers, soldiers and surgeons fasted at the traditional dinner (Nov. 27) in dissent over the Viet Nam war. They wrote Nixon a long letter bearing hundreds of signatures to explain the motive of their protest.

AN UNCOMMON TRIAL

It is reported from Saigon that on Nov. 28, 1969, the Thieu-Ky-Khem clique summoned before the special military court 43 people on charges of "treason," "complicity with traitors," "spying for the Viet Cong" and "harming national security." Among the accused were Huynh Van Trong, a Thieu's former advisor for security and home affairs, Vu Ngoc Nha, one of his counsellors, Le Huu Thieu, chief of the secretariat of the "Open Arms Ministry" of the puppet government, two journalists, 13 women and a number of officials of the same "Ministry."

Before the tribunal Huynh Van Trong refuted all the charges against him, saying he was but "Thieu's scapegoat." Vu Ngoc Nha said he had been a close collaborator of Nguyen Van Thieu. The others also rejected all accusations against them.

Nevertheless, Huynh Van Trong, Vu Ngoc Nha, Le Huu Thieu and others were sentenced to life imprisonment; 39 others got prison terms ranging from 3 months to 20 years' hard labour.

According to the same source, this was a special tribunal in which there were no investigating but only police interrogations, no appeal, no dismissal. Many prisoners said they had been put to the third degree. The hearings were held in camera and attended only by newsmen and policemen.

The Thieu-Ky-Khem junta was unable to bring anything to light as they expected from this trial which on the contrary showed that even their police and their closest collaborators, did not see eye to eye with them and had to be dealt with fascist methods.

Latest News

ON the night of Dec. 2, the PLAF hammered at about sixty targets in the Mekong Delta in the Western High Plateaux and Da Nang region. Western agencies reported 58 enemy bases and positions were bombarded, some of them with "serious losses in men and materials." The targets hit by PLAF artillery included the HQ of puppet Infantry Division 7 at My Tho, the bases of Phan

Rang, Dau Tieng, Bu Prang and Duc Lap, respectively 60 km southwest, 265 km north-northeast, 178 km north-northeast and 208 km north-northeast.

PLAF men also struck at the Tuyen Binh subsector C1 195 km west-northwest of Saigon, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy, and many other positions and cut off Highway 80, a linking Saigon to the provinces in the Mekong Delta.

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